

New Shoreham Town Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Town Hall, Old Town Road
7:00 p.m.

Present: First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett, Second Warden Kenneth C. Lacoste, Town Councilor Sean McGarry, Town Councilor Norris Pike, Town Councilor Christopher Warfel. Also present were Town Manager Nancy O. Dodge and Finance Director Amy Land. Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick was present to take the minutes of the meeting.

First Warden Gaffett called the meeting to order at 7:05.

1. Budget Work Session/Public Hearing

Library:

Library Director Kristin Baumann answered questions about the Library's program and budget requests. Library Board members Connie LaRue, Charlotte Herring and Shirlyne Goben were also present.

The Library has expenses for fence repairs, building trim and window repairs. They are instituting cost-saving measures by switching to laptops and LED lighting. Changes to the HVAC fresh air intake will create energy cost saving. They have committed to working with the volunteers this year and will revisit an additional staff position next year.

Administration:

Town Clerk asked for additional 10 hours per week which the Finance Director and Town Manager calculated would cost an additional \$17,000 annually. There was a suggestion to reduce the engineering line back to \$10,000.

Finance

Finance Director Amy Land was present to answer questions.

Fire/Rescue/Communication

Chief Carlone was present to answer questions.

Police

Chief Carlone was present to answer questions about his department and funding requests.

GIS/Technology:

Michele Spero was present for the GIS/Technology department. More support will be required for new programs for the Police Department.

Deer Task Force request:

Becky Ballard was present for the DTF and asked for \$12,500 to fund the first year of the "Modified Skidaway Plan"

Boards and Commission:

The budget was increased because the ten-year update to the Town's Comprehensive Plan will require increased hours for the Town Planner. There was a discussion of the North Light's request for exterior painting and replacement of wind turbine tower.

Community Support

Senior Advisory Committee members (present were Betsey DeMaggio, Sandra Kelly, Gail Pierce and Dorothy Graham) spoke for additional funding for the Senior Coordinator.

Capital Tax fiscal year 2014 projects discussed:

- Coast Guard Station renovations do not include funding for alarm system, nor siding on north and west sides.

- \$20,000 for study for boat ramp: there was little support for funding the study, Councilors thought the money would be better spent on construction; some money may be available from the boating infrastructure grant
- Old Harbor Utilities: \$35,000 for utilities on the east dock if they are not funded by the boating infrastructure grant
- Library has been funded \$15,500 to install two book drops as per their preservation plan. The Library Director will report back after determining whether the preservation plan can be modified to one book drop
- Library has been funded \$25,000 for fresh air intake
- Recreation was not funded for a \$5,000 conceptual plan for athletic fields
- School façade funding of \$20,000 in 2013 plus \$30,000 recommended in 2014 leaves a balance of \$30,000 to be funded possibly from school reserves (per the bid 5 years ago) but School will fund the lift first
- Councilor Warfel is working to organize a demonstration project for led lighting in the school and at town hall
- Technology \$8,500 was funded for expanding Clerkbse
- The Library had no request for technology replacement
- Michele Spero described the Town technology planned equipment replacement plan
- Server room air conditioning was not recommended funding by the Planning Board; Spero said it is a priority for her
- Planning Board did not request implementation of “Fire Tide” mesh communication network for \$14,000; it is being installed now and it can be expanded to allow the Town Hall and Police Department to use each others’ internet connection
- Recreation software at \$14,000 was not funded. The Recreation Director said it would save about 10 hours a week in data entry, allow credit card payments and improve efficiency and accuracy
- Spero spoke for the need of the Harbors Department for technology upgrade
- Spero will be making changes to the Town’s website which will require departments to add their own content
- The Recreation Director spoke in favor of funding tractor attachments

2. Discuss and act on delineation of Town access at Scotch Beach

The Town Manager said Richard Greene will put in two concrete/cement rebar reinforced markers to mark the northern boundary of town property at Scotch Beach Road. Mr. Lacoste said some of the abutter’s snow fencing is on the Town’s property.

3. Review Town of New Shoreham position re: CRMC April 5, 2013 meeting/ Deepwater Wind

The CRMC is meeting to decide on requests to intervene. The CRMC has no provision for “intervention.” The Town has not asked for intervener status. The Town is “an interested party” and has reserved its right to move to intervene if the CRMC allows others to intervene, and if intervention status would give the Town rights it would otherwise not have.

4. Act on spending unused funds (\$900) from the WCRPC energy grant

Councilor McGarry moved to spend the \$900 on a demonstration project for LED lights in the Clerk’s Office and the reading room at the Library and to expend any excess funds on LED lighting at the school, seconded by First Warden Gaffett.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Lacoste, McGarry, Pike, Warfel) Nays: 0

5. Receive and act on negotiations with Police and Employee’s unions (This item may be held in closed session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5(a)(2) for sessions pertaining to collective bargaining)

First Warden Gaffett moved to enter closed session to receive and act on negotiations with Police and Employee’s unions pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5(a)(2) for sessions pertaining to collective bargaining, seconded by Councilor Pike.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Lacoste, McGarry, Pike, Warfel) Nays: 0

First Warden Gaffett moved to adjourn the closed session and seal the minutes, seconded by Mr. Warfel.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Lacoste, McGarry, Pike, Warfel) Nays: 0

It was reported no motions were made during the closed session.

At 11:00 Mr. Lacoste moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Warfel.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Lacoste, McGarry, Pike, Warfel) Nays: 0

Minutes approved June 5, 2013

Fiona Fitzpatrick
Town Clerk